

News Release

Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Earth Day Celebration at Squaw Creek NWR April 23, 2016

Mound City, Missouri -- Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge is excited to announce an Earth Day Celebration from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm on Saturday, April 23, 2016. Earth Day is a great time to celebrate wildlife and learn more about our natural resources. This fun-filled free event is open to the public and will include opportunities to take guided hikes, learn about local wildlife, play games, and create wildlife-themed arts and crafts.

Join refuge staff, partners, and volunteers on guided nature hikes to look for spring wildflowers, listen for birds, and learn about the unique geology of the Loess Hills. Visit outside stations to learn about and see live bats and snakes, touch real mammal furs, learn about wild turkeys, monarch butterflies, backyard birds, get a taste of outdoor cooking, see Native American artifacts, and so much more. Take a drive around the refuge to observe migratory birds at staffed spotting scope stations around the ten-mile auto tour route. From 9:00 am to 3:00 pm youth of any age will be given the opportunity to learn about gun safety and experience firearms during a Pheasants Forever youth shoot at a nearby site off the refuge. A stewardship project will also be offered for anyone who may want to get their hands dirty.

At the contact station visitors can view nature and wildlife exhibits, watch a 13 minute refuge orientation video, and purchase gift shop items from the Friends of Squaw Creek. The ten-mile auto tour route and foot trails are open daily from sunrise to sunset for hiking, nature photography, wildlife observation, and to enjoy of the great outdoors.

The refuge includes 7,440 acres of wetlands, grasslands, and forests along the eastern edge of the Missouri River floodplain. Overlooking the refuge from the east, the Loess Hills habitat is a geological formation of fine silt deposited after the past glacial period. The hills stretch from about 30 miles south of St. Joseph, Missouri, to extreme northern Iowa. Some of the last parcels of native plants, of a once vast native prairie, can be found here.

Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge is located in northwest Missouri near Mound City. Take Interstate 29 to Exit 79 south of Mound City, Missouri then travel south 2 ½ miles on U.S. Highway 159. Connect with our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/squawcreeknwr/. Check our website, www.fws.gov/refuge/squaw_creek/, for refuge updates. For more information please contact 660/442-3187.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.

